

Keynsham Rural District Council.

Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health for
the Year 1920.

7, WHITELADIES ROAD,

CLIFTON, BRISTOL.

MARCH, 1921.

To the Keynsham Rural District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

In compiling my Annual Report for the year 1920, I have endeavoured to follow, as far as possible, the lines laid down by the Ministry of Health in their Memorandum, 40/Int.

Natural and Social Conditions of the District.

POPULATION.—Census 1911 = Males, 4,846 ; Females, 5,295 ;
Total, 10,141.

Ditto Estimated for 1920 = 9,365.

Physical Features and General Character of the District.

The Keynsham District comprises 14 Parishes, viz. ; Keynsham, Brislington, Whitchurch, Queen Charlton, Compton Dando, Marksbury, Priston, Stanton Prior, Newton St. Loe, Corston, Burnett, Saltford, Kelston, and Northstoke. At one end the district is continuous with the City of Bristol, and at the other it comes up to the suburbs of the City of Bath, thus forming as it were a connecting link between the two. The town of Keynsham and Brislington village are practically urban in character, and contain a large number of residents whose business is in Bristol. The rest of the district contains small scattered villages and is practically entirely rural in character.

The Physical Features and Geology of the district are fully dealt with in the Annual Report for 1920, *q.v.*

Occupation.—The occupation of the inhabitants in the greater portion of the district is agricultural. Various trade processes are however carried on in Keynsham town and Brislington village, which latter is no longer a village but continuous with the City of Bristol, and urban in character.

The following is a list of Works :—

Keynsham—Brass Mills	employing about 40 hands.
„ Logwood Mill	„ „ 20 „
„ Blouse Factory	„ „ 36 „
„ Tangent Wool Factory	„ „ 50 „
„ Polysulphin Works	„ „ 27 „
Brislington—Robertson's Jam Factory	„ „ 300 „
„ Galley's Laundry	„ „ 25 „

A considerable number of residents at Brislington and Keynsham are employed in various capacities in Bristol.

Sanitary Administration.

- (1) The Staff consists of Medical Officer of Health (part time).
 Inspector of Nuisances (whole time).
 Surveyor (part time).
 Medical Attendant to Isolation Hospital
 (part time).
 Matron at Hospital.
 Wardmaid „
 Hospital Orderly and Wife, the former acting as Removal Officer, and working steam disinfecter, etc., and the latter as Laundress.

- (2) Information as to the Isolation Hospital will be found on p. 8.

- (3) **Special Acts, Urban Powers, Bye-Laws, and Regulations in force in the District.**

Special Acts. Infectious Disease Prevention Act, and Public Health Acts Amendment Act, so far as they apply to Rural Districts.
 Public Streets Act, 1892, for road at Keynsham.

Urban Powers. Powers under Secs. 155, 157, 158, P.H.A., 1875, as to new streets and buildings.
 Under Sec. 25, P.H.A., as to house without drain.
 Under Building in Streets Acts, 1888, Sec. 3.
 Under P.H.A. Amendment Act, 1890, Sec. 23.
 Under P.H.A., Secs. 112, 113, 114, as to offensive trades.
 Under P.H.A., Sec. 26, as to building over sewers.
 Under P.H.A., Sec. 150, for certain streets.
 Under P.H.A., Sec. 44, as to cleansing of footways, pavements, removal of house refuse, cleansing of earth closets, privies, ashpits and cesspools.

In force in Parishes of Keynsham and Brislington.

Power as to numbering houses throughout the district.

Bye-laws and Regulations.

Bye-laws imposing duty of removal of refuse on occupiers, save in Keynsham and Brislington where it is collected under contract.

Bye-laws with regard to nuisances from snow, filth, dust, ashes, and rubbish, and prevention of keeping animals on premises so as to be injurious to health, in force in Keynsham and Brislington.

Model Bye-laws for Slaughter-Houses apply in Keynsham and Brislington.

Bye-laws for cleansing dry privies approved and in force.

Model Bye-laws for New Streets and Buildings, in force in Parishes of Keynsham and Brislington.

Bye-laws regulating erection of New Buildings, in force in the remaining Parishes.

Regulations under Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Order, sanctioned and in force.

Regulations as to connection of drains with sewers.

No fresh powers obtained this year. Present Bye-laws work fairly and are enforced.

(4) Specimens are bacteriologically examined for Diphtheria by the Medical Officer of Health; sputum examinations for Tubercle, of blood for Enteric Fever, and cerebro-spinal fluid, are carried out at the Somerset County Bacteriological Laboratory.

Statistics.

Area of District, 21,406 acres.

Population (census 1911): males, 4,846; females, 5,295; total, 10,141.

Population for 1920 (supplied by Registrar General), 9,365.

RATES—1920.

Death Rate (standardised)	-	-	=	9.07
Birth Rate	-	-	=	20.24
Epidemic Disease Rate	-	-	=	0.53
Infant Mortality Rate	-	-	=	38.09

The DEATHS, from all causes, belonging to your own population occurring during the year were 120—males, 68; females, 52. Putting on one side the deaths from epidemic disease, mentioned under that heading below, there is nothing special to notice among the causes. Heart Disease (15 deaths), Cancer, malignant disease (22 deaths), and deaths from Respiratory Diseases (21), are well above the other specifically mentioned causes. The deaths from malignant disease appear to be increasing. The death rate, 9.07, is well below that for the whole of England and Wales, viz., 12.4.

The BIRTHS among your own population were 210 in number, as compared with 149 in 1919. Of these births 204 were legitimate, and 6 illegitimate, 100 being males and 110 females. These 204 births are equivalent to a birth rate of 20·24 per 1,000, which, while showing a considerable increase over that of 1919 (*viz.*, 15·88), is still considerably below that for the whole of England and Wales, which is 25·4. The district has shared in the universal increase in births, and the “natural increase in population,” *i.e.* excess of births over deaths, is 90 as compared with 25 in 1919.

EPIDEMIC DISEASES caused five deaths : one from Measles, two from Diphtheria, one from Enteric Fever, and one under two years of age from Diarrhœa. The Epidemic Disease Rate for 1920 is 0·53.

INFANT MORTALITY.—The deaths under one year of age were 8 in number, equivalent to a “Rate of Infant Mortality” of 30·09 per 1,000 births. This is a satisfactory rate, approaching a third of that for the whole of England and Wales, which is 80. No illegitimate child died under one year of age.

Deaths under one year :	Under 1 week	=	3
	1 to 4 weeks (inclusive)	=	1
	1 to 6 months	=	3
	6 to 12 months	=	1

Appended to this Report is a Table showing the Causes of Death during 1920, and another Table giving the cases of Infectious Disease notified.

Water Supply.

The Water Supply of the district was described very fully in the Annual Report for 1919 (*q.v.*), and I have set out below only the special points with regard to water which have come under notice during the past year. Twenty-two samples of water were taken for analysis, and necessary action, required by the results, followed—two wells were closed.

COMPTON DANDO.—No improvement in the supply to this village has taken place. Samples will again be taken to see whether the cleansing of the tank in the pump-house has prevented contamination. Analysis of spring shows water to be good.

MARKSBURY.—No action has been taken with regard to the water here.

NEWTON-ST.-LOE.—Another standpipe erected to meet the requirements of seven houses which were a considerable distance from the nearest source of public supply.

PRISTON.—The owner of the public supply has been requested to provide two fresh standpipes, one for seven cottages at the lower end of the village, the other for five cottages at the Tunley Road side.

QUEEN CHARLTON.—A Sub-committee of the Council met the Estate Agent, and certain suggestions for prevention of contamination of the water were made.

WHITCHURCH.—The West Gloucester Company's supply here has been more satisfactory during 1920. Practically no shortage has been complained of.

The public supplies at Keynsham, Brislington, Corston, Burnett, Kelston, Northstoke, and Saltford have been satisfactory.

Sewerage, Drainage, and Excrement Disposal.

The district being mainly rural, the sewerage systems are not numerous. Sewers only exist at Keynsham town, Brislington, Saltford, Priston, and Newton-St.-Loe.

BRISLINGTON.—The sewers here (between 4 and 5 miles in length) have acted well, and no trouble has this year arisen.

KEYNSHAM.—The system here (about 5 miles in length) has worked satisfactorily. 183 yards of new sewer have been constructed in connection with the Keynsham Housing site, *i.e.* from site to Bath Street.

SALTFORD.—No complaint of or trouble from the sewers here has arisen during the year. A small extension has been made.

NEWTON-ST.-LOE.—The sewers here have worked satisfactorily, and there has been no complaint.

WHITCHURCH.—The dry privy system in this village has worked satisfactorily.

Excrement Disposal.—Improvement in this matter in the smaller villages and more rural parts is of slow growth. Efforts to replace cesspit privies by other and better arrangements, such as dry privies, are continued, and during the past 12 months 4 new ones have been constructed. Four new W.C.'s have been made, and repairs (new pans, etc.) carried out in 16 W.C.'s

House Drainage.—Plans for the drainage of all new buildings have to be passed by your Surveyor or Inspector before the drains are constructed, and the drains are tested before being covered in. Sixteen drains have been repaired or cleansed, 9 relaid with pipes, 14 trapped or ventilated, 12 new pipe drains have been laid, 4 new W.C.'s provided, and 4 dry privies constructed.

Bath Sewage Works.—The nuisance caused by these works, situated in the parish of Saltford, has continued in more or less pronounced form throughout the year. Numerous complaints have been received from the inhabitants of Swinford, Northstoke, Kelston, and Saltford, and representations have frequently been made by your Council to the Bath Corporation with requests for abatement of the trouble. The new beds for dealing with the sludge, advised by the Ministry, after local inquiry, have been completed, but have not proved effectual in preventing the nuisance complained of.

Scavenging and Removal of Refuse.—Periodical removal of refuse, twice a week, under contract, has been continued in Keynsham town and Brislington during the past year; street watering is also carried out in these places during the summer.

In the rest of the district the duty of removal of refuse is imposed on occupiers by bye-law.

Infectious Disease

(Prevalence and control of).

Notifications.—Scarlet Fever, 14; Diphtheria, 26; Erysipelas 5; Measles, 2; Paratyphoid, 2; Pneumonia, 4; Malaria, 2; Influenza, 2; Encephalitis Lethargica, 1. Total, 58.

The past year has been very free from infectious disease, and there has been no epidemic.

Smallpox.—No case notified.

VACCINATION.—I have received from the Vaccination Officer the following information relating to the year 1920:

		1919
(1)	No. of Primary Vaccinations by Public Vaccinator = 50	47.
(2)	Ditto Re-vaccination (successful) - - - = 4	0.
(3)	Exemptions granted - - - = 123	71.

“The exemptions are above the average.”

From the above it will be seen that although the births in 1920 exceeded those in 1919 by 61, the number of primary vaccinations only increased by 3, but the exemptions increased by 52.

The condition of the district with regard to vaccination is quite unsatisfactory, and progressively growing worse. The granting of exemptions is made far too easy by the law. The possible introduction of Smallpox and the facilities for its spread, produced by this neglect of the one preventive—vaccination, is a constant source of anxiety to your Medical Officer.

Scarlet Fever.—Prevalence very slight, only 14 cases notified: 3 during the first, 4 during the second, 5 during the third, and 2 during the fourth quarter. These cases were scattered over the district at odd intervals and were without connection. In no instance was there more than one case in a family. Seven cases were removed to Keynsham Isolation Hospital and one to Bath Isolation Hospital. There was no death.

Diphtheria.—Of the 26 cases notified 13 arose in the first quarter, 5 in Keynsham, 4 in Brislington, 3 in Newton-St.-Loe, and 1 at Kelston. During the second quarter there were 5 cases, 2 in Keynsham, 2 in Brislington, and one in Newton-St.-Loe. The third quarter produced 6 cases: 4 in Keynsham, one in Brislington, and one at Wilmington. During the fourth quarter there were only two cases, both

in Keynsham. Twenty-one families in all were affected, and in only 4 instances was there more than one case in a house. Twenty of the 26 were removed to Hospital.

The usual precautions of examination of contacts, school exclusion, disinfection and freeing of cases only after bacteriological freedom was ascertained, were carried out. There were two deaths.

ANTITOXIN.—Similar arrangements to those in former years have been in force. There are three depôts in use, one at Keynsham, one at Brislington, and one at Corston, and 72,000 units have been issued during the year, 62,000 of which have been used at the Isolation Hospital. Only 10,000 therefore were used in private practice. It would be a great advantage if medical men would remember that Antitoxin can be readily obtained, and that it is essential that it should be given in the first 3 to 4 days. Every day's delay lessens its usefulness, and when patients are admitted to Hospital on the 6th, 7th, or even a later day, without having received Antitoxin, their chance of recovery is greatly lessened, and neither the patient nor the Hospital doctor gets a fair chance.

Enteric Fever.—No case of Enteric was notified. There were two cases of Paratyphoid, totally unconnected, one at Brislington and one at Priston. One of these cases died.

Pneumonia.—Four cases of acute Pneumonia were notified at odd intervals and widely separated points.

Erysipelas.—There were 5 cases, to which no special interest or importance attached.

Malaria.—Two cases only were heard of, both contracted abroad, both under treatment, and in neither were there dangerous surroundings.

Encephalitis Lethargica.—One case occurred at Brislington in January. The man had been ill some little time, and was admitted to the Bristol General Hospital, from which he was notified on the day of his death.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.—No case was notified. Arrangement has been made with a practitioner at Keynsham to attend cases, if required.

Influenza.—Two cases were notified, one in February and one in April.

In all Notified cases full inquiry is made at the houses, and results reported to me. The usual precautions were taken. Printed instructions, stating the precautions necessary to avoid spread of infection, as well as notices requiring disinfection, were sent to the occupiers. Notices were also sent to schools, requiring the exclusion of children from infected houses. The absence, bacteriologically, of the Diphtheria bacillus was ascertained before cases were considered free from infection. In all cases thorough disinfection was carried out, except in those of Measles and Erysipelas, where thorough room cleansing was deemed sufficient.

Measles.—Notification of two cases at Keynsham, posted on 31st December, were received.

Following the epidemic at Keynsham towards the end of 1919, and extending into 1920, Measles became fairly widespread over the district. The only information as to the number of cases available is from reports made to me by the Head Teachers of the various schools.

The parishes affected were :

COMPTON DANDO.—One case was reported in January.

CORSTON.—One case reported in June, and 17 cases on the 19th July.

WHITCHURCH.—Forty-two cases were reported on one day in June, and the school was closed by the County Education Authority on account of diminished attendance from 5th to 26th June, and closure later extended to 3rd July.

PRISTON.—Ten cases reported in October, and the school here was closed by the County Education Authority from 21st October to 15th November, on account of diminished attendance.

NEWTON-ST.-LOE.—Eight cases reported during October and November from this school, which was closed on account of diminished attendance from 27th November to 18th December.

MARKSBURY.—Thirty-one cases were reported by the Teacher of this school in October and November, and the school was closed on account of diminished attendance from 26th October to 16th November, and closure later extended to 24th November.

In each instance, except at Corston and Compton Dando, the disease had obtained a firm hold, and the second crop had sickened before its presence was known, and preventive measures were of little use.

Altogether 113 cases were heard of, and there was one death.

In each case Notices of the precautions which should be taken were posted in the affected villages, and exclusion from school of cases and contacts who had not previously had Measles was required.

Whooping Cough.—This disease appears to have been practically absent during the year ; only one case was reported from Newton-St.-Loe school. There was one death.

Chickenpox.—Three cases reported from school in June.

Diarrhœa.—No prevalence of summer Diarrhœa came to my knowledge. One death under 2 years of age was due to Diarrhœa.

Isolation Hospital.

The Hospital, which requires survey for repairs and improved lighting and heating, has been in use throughout the year, and the following report on the year's work has been furnished by the Hospital Medical Attendant, Dr. WILLETT :—

REPORT FOR 1920.

“Admitted, 27—Scarlet Fever, 7; Diphtheria, 20. Average stay in Hospital, 6 weeks and 1 day. Deaths: 3 Diphtheria.

Neither of the fatal cases of Diphtheria had been given anti-toxin before admission. Tracheotomy had to be performed in one of them. Another fatal case was much embarrassed by Round-Worms, three of which were vomited and 11 passed the bowels. The third fatal case developed Nephritis, followed by uræmic convulsions and coma.

I wish to draw the attention of the Council to the very inadequate lighting of the Hospital, and ask that it may be improved; at present the lighting is very bad.

During the year we have lost the services of Miss BOYES, our Matron for the past 6 years; and I wish to say that her successor, Miss BULL, has earned my highest appreciation.”

(Signed) GEORGE WILLETT,
Medical Attendant.

The Hospital has again proved very useful, and the fact that there has been so little infectious disease during the past year, and so few multiple cases in a family, is, I believe, largely due to the prompt removal of first cases. The Hospital has been performing its proper function. As stated in previous reports, the main drawback to the usefulness of the Hospital is that, when in use for one infectious disease, one hesitates to admit cases of another infectious disease into the same block, although, owing to the Matron thoroughly understanding the “separate” method of nursing, cases of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria have been treated in the same block (when necessity required) without any transference of disease. It is not so much the fear of disease transference, under proper nursing conditions, which makes another block desirable, as the proper separation of the sexes when two diseases have to be dealt with in the same block.

As pointed out last year, removal of patients is constantly asked for, expected, and under the present crowded conditions of home life, required; and we now much more frequently have times when both Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria require isolation simultaneously.

The Council has, this year, lost the services of Miss BOYES, who after six years excellent work with them, has been appointed Matron at the Isolation Hospital, Burton-on-Trent. A most efficient successor has been found in the present Matron, Miss BULL.

Steam Disinfector and Disinfection.—The disinfector, which is situated at the Hospital, and is a Portable (so called) Steam Disinfector, made by Goddard, Massey & Warner, has again proved of great value. During the year 679 articles have passed through the machine. This is a small number, but the number of cases requiring disinfection was also small. Articles capable of such disinfection are boiled at home; a large number were so dealt with.

Rooms are now disinfected with Izal, or cylin spray, which has replaced the old method of sulphur fumigation. In many cases, where rooms in old cottages have to be dealt with, the use of sulphur is almost impossible, as the fumes pervade the house. The new method is quite as, if not more, effectual, and certainly more comfortable to the inmates.

Ambulance.—Has proved quite efficient.

Disinfecting Van.—Has answered all requirements well.

Bacteriological Examinations.—117 specimens were examined this year, 116 for Diphtheria, and one for Enteric Fever.

Tuberculosis.

I may here state shortly that satisfactory arrangements for dealing with this disease, covering the points set out under the following heads, are still in force :—

- 1.—Bacteriological Examination free of charge.
- 2.—Provision of Sputum Flasks and Disinfectant.
- 3.—Means of detection of early or doubtful cases.
- 4.—Means of detection of Contact cases.
- 5.—Provision for Notification of Change of Address.
- 6.—Immediate information by the Registrar to me of any death from Phthisis.
- 7.—Disinfection.

Twenty-two primary notifications were received (as against 17 in 1919), 12 cases being males and 10 females. The following Table divides these cases into Pulmonary and other, and gives the age groups in which they occurred :—

	0-1		1-5		5-15		15-25		25-35		35-45		45-65		<i>Totals</i>
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Pulmonary				1	3	3	3	1	2	2	1	1	2	1	20
Other ...						2									2

The distribution of cases was as follows :

Keynsham	-	-	-	-	-	8
Brislington	-	-	-	-	-	7
Priston	-	-	-	-	-	2
Whitchurch	-	-	-	-	-	4
Stanton Prior	-	-	-	-	-	1

The greatest incidence of Tuberculosis is thus seen, as might be expected, to be upon the practically urban parts of Keynsham and Brislington, the really rural parts showing few cases.

There were four deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, and one from other Tuberculous diseases.

The notified cases are all visited, and afterwards kept under observation by the Tuberculosis Visitors of the County Council, who, by arrangement with the County, act for this purpose as Officers of the District Council.

Your Inspector also visits Tuberculosis cases from time to time. Several have been supplied with sputum flasks, and nearly all notified cases with disinfectant regularly.

Only five of this year's cases were removed to Sanatoria for treatment, two from Keynsham, two from Brislington, and one from Whitchurch.

Disinfection after death or removal of Tuberculosis cases is carried out at home by boiling all articles capable of thus being dealt with, removal of bedding, etc., to steam disinfectors, spraying the whole room and furniture with Izal, and stripping and re-papering or re-colouring walls where it appears to be required. Such disinfection has been carried out this year after every case of death and after several removals.

Venereal Disease.

Arrangements for dealing with such diseases have been made by the Somerset County Council for :

1.—Laboratory examinations for diagnosis, and the help of the County Medical Staff in taking specimens for examination, should their help be required.

2.—Treatment at certain centres, not only at the Hospitals at Bristol, Bath, Taunton, and Yeovil, but also at certain of the Tuberculosis Dispensaries, so that the rural population may receive treatment within reasonable distance of their homes.

Medical men desiring treatment for a suspected or actual case of Venereal disease should communicate with the County Medical Officer of Health.

Clinics.

The days and times of the existing Clinics, to either of which any inhabitant of the district can apply for advice and treatment, are :

Bristol General Hospital.

MEN.			WOMEN.		
Monday	-	6.30 p.m.	Monday	-	6.30 p.m.
Thursday	-	6.30 p.m.	Friday	-	1.30 p.m.
Friday	-	1.30 p.m.			

Bristol Royal Infirmary.

Tuesday	-	6.0 p.m.	Monday	-	6.0 p.m.
Wednesday	-	6.0 p.m.	Wednesday	-	6.0 p.m.
Thursday	-	12.0 noon.	Saturday	-	12.30 p.m.
Friday	-	6.0 p.m.			
Saturday	-	12.30 p.m.			

Bath Royal United Hospital.

Friday	-	5.0 p.m.	Tuesday	-	5.0 p.m.
Saturday	-	5.0 p.m.			

The above are the Hospitals to which patients from Keynsham district have fairly easy access.

3.—Supplies of Salvarsan substitutes can be obtained on application to the County Medical Officer ; *only* by medical men who can produce satisfactory evidence of training or experience in the administration of these drugs.

4.—Education of Patients.—A supply of leaflets on these diseases, to be given to patients, *after* direct personal advice, can be obtained on application to the County Medical Officer of Health.

HOUSING.

Comparatively little inspection of fresh houses has been carried out this year, ten only. Work in connection with the Housing Schemes has taken up the time which might have been spent in house inspection. The 64 houses repaired are those for which notices were previously served, and informal reminders were sent to those owners who had not begun to carry out repairs. The original estimate of houses under £16 rental to be dealt with appears to have been too high, and there is only a comparatively small number at Keynsham, Brislington, Whitchurch, and Newton St. Loe still to be inspected. A good many inspected at Brislington have been over £16 rental, and probably the number of such houses given for the whole District by the Assistant Overseer was based on rateable value and not rental. Visits in respect of houses under H. and T. P. Act total 350.

Conditions as to Housing in the several Villages :—

BURNETT.—Conditions as last year.

BRISLINGTON.—No building carried out under Housing. Twelve houses repaired, and minor repairs to others. 28 cottages not in good condition ; No. of occupants, 96. Conditions as to overcrowding as last year, but not so acute as in 1919.

COMPTON DANDO.—No houses yet erected in this parish under Housing Scheme. 6 not in good condition, minor repairs only required ; No. of occupants, 22. Several houses with more than one family in house. One cottage being extensively repaired (1921).

CORSTON.—No houses erected under Housing Scheme. One new house erected on Ashton Hill, and another practically re-built. One in village, two new bedrooms and living room added, and repairs to other part. Six other cottages repaired. 12 houses reported not in good condition, minor repairs required ; No. of occupants, 33.

KELSTON.—No houses erected under Housing Scheme. One house repaired and piped water supply laid on. Only minor repairs to others. Nine houses not in good condition. No. of occupants, 27.

KEYNSHAM.—No houses yet erected under Building Scheme, but sewers and roads laid down. 53 houses not in good condition ; No. of occupants, 206. Twelve houses repaired. 1920 conditions as to overcrowding as in 1919.

MARKSBURY WITH HUNSTRETE ESTATE.—No special shortage. Six houses repaired on this Estate.

NEWTON-ST.-LOE.—No special shortage. Repairs to ten houses carried out; several others to repair. Water supply extended to seven houses N. East of village.

NORTHSTOKE AND SWINFORD.—No building yet begun. Three houses repaired and three not in good condition. No. of occupants, 9. Two thatched cottages at Swinford, condemned a few years ago, demolished.

PRISTON.—No new buildings erected. Nine houses repaired, and minor repairs to others.

QUEEN CHARLTON.—Cottages generally in good condition with the exception of the poor houses (3). Seven occupants. One house void to be repaired. Water supply to be protected.

SALTFORD.—Eight houses in course of erection. Two repaired, and minor repairs to others. Six not in good condition. No. of occupants, 19.

STANTON PRIOR.—Part of the Newton Estate, not yet dealt with as to repairs.

WHITCHURCH.—Eight houses being erected to meet the demand for houses in this parish. Minor repairs only carried out. Eight houses not satisfactory. No. of occupants, 32.

General remarks under "Housing" last year apply to this year's conditions. Skilled labour scarce and materials dear.

Water,	} As in last year's report, unless otherwise stated.
W.C.'s, etc.,	
House Refuse	

OVERCROWDING: EXTENT.—In Keynsham and Brislington ten cases on the basis of two occupants per room, and in some cases two families in one house; there is a demand for working-class dwellings in these parishes, also Compton Dando, Whitchurch, Saltford, and Corston. Housing Schemes for 8 houses at Whitchurch and 6 at Saltford are in progress, but no houses are being yet erected in other villages.

Particulars asked for by the Ministry.

Number of dwelling-houses of all classes—not known.

Number of working-class dwelling-houses—not known.

Number of working-class houses *erected* (*i.e.*, finished)—11.

(a) By Local Authority, under Government Scheme—nil.

(b) By private enterprise (whether subsidised or not)—11.

New houses in hand (January 1st, 1921) but not erected—6 (Building Scheme).

(a) Plans passed only—2.

(b) Building commenced but not completed

Inspection.

Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts—183.

Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910—10.

Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation—1 (made fit in 1921).

Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation—183 (as above).

Action.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers—37.

(a) Proceedings under section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1919.

Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs—37.

Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit—37.

(a) By owners—37.

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners—nil.

Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close—nil.

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied—183 informal, calling attention to notices already served.

Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied :

(a) By owners—37.

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners—nil.

(c) Proceedings under sections 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1909.

Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders—1.

Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made—nil.

Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit—nil.

Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made—nil.

Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders—2.

Any unhealthy areas represented—nil.

General Housing Conditions in the District.—

Fair. Brislington, Keynsham, Whitchurch, Compton Dando and Saltford are the parishes in which there is the greatest demand for working-class dwellings.

Housing Schemes.—The present position with regard to these Schemes will be found in the Surveyor's Report, page 19. A very great amount of time and work has been expended on them by the Housing Committee and the Officers.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

The whole of the work under this heading, as outlined in the various circulars of the Local Government Board and the Ministry of Health, and also the inspection of Midwives, is carried out by the Somerset County Council.

FOOD.

Milk.—The Milk supply of the district is chiefly derived from local farms, though a considerable number of houses in Brislington are supplied by dairymen residing in Bristol who obtain their milk from various sources. Speaking generally the supply may be said to be good.

Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops.—

No. of persons entered on the Register	...	...	101
„ Cowkeepers	...	...	92
„ Inspections made during the year	...	...	310

There has been an increase in the number of Cowkeepers owing to the high price of milk.

The dairies are regularly visited, and repairs and improvements carried out when necessary.

Cowsheds Repaired.—

NEWTON ST. LOE.—One large cowshed, new floor, channelling and drainage.

HUNSTRETE.—One shed, new floor, channelling and drainage.

KEYNSHAM.—One shed, new floor, channelling and drainage, two sheds repaired.

New dairy built (plans passed by Council).

Slaughter Houses.—

Number Licensed	-	-	3	} Total, 11.
„ Registered	·	-	8	
Inspections made	-	-	280.	

Several of these premises are not well fitted for the purpose, but, as they cannot be licensed, we can only try to have them reasonably kept. They are not visited specially at times of slaughtering. The Inspector holds no special certificate in meat inspection.

Two carcasses of imported Government mutton condemned and returned to Government wholesaler.

Bakehouses.—Number, 9. Condition, fair. No underground bakehouses. Whitewashing carried out.

Factory and Workshops Act.

The above Act has at present only a slight application to the district. The works existing are given near the beginning of this Report. No complaint has, so far as I am aware, been received from the Factory Inspector. Most of these works are visited from time to time.

SCHOOLS.

The remarks under this head in the Annual Report for 1919 are still applicable.

Surveyor's Report.—From this it will be seen that there has been a slight increase in house building. It also deals with the position of the various housing schemes.

Matters requiring attention:—

Marksbury water supply.

Queen Charlton Water supply.

Survey of the Isolation Hospital for repairs and improvement of its lighting and heating.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES.—The very great increase of work which has during the last few years devolved upon this officer renders it almost impossible for him, especially during pressure of infectious disease, to carry out his duties as he would wish to carry them out, and it appears to me that the time has come for the Council to consider seriously the advisability of relieving him of some of the routine work, thus leaving him free to pay the required attention to the more specialised and skilled portion of his duties. The appointment of a whole or part time man to work under the Inspector's direction would, I am convinced, be greatly to the advantage of the district.

I desire to thank your Inspector, who has been indefatigable in discharge of duties which are really too much for one man, as well as the medical men practising in the district, for their hearty co-operation and assistance during the past twelvemonth.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN C. HEAVEN, D.P.H., &c.,

Medical Officer of Health,

Inspector of Nuisances Report,

For the Year 1920. *Keynsham, Somerset.*

No. of Complaints received during the year ...		230
No. of Houses, Premises, &c., inspected ...	{ under P.H. Acts ...	326
	{ under H. & T.P. Act, ...	10
	No. special inspections...	350
No. of re-visits to see that work has been carried out, or for other reasons ...		196
Housing re-visits ...		—
Results of Inspection	{ No. of Houses or Premises cleansed, repaired, or W. washed under P.H. Acts ...	134
	{ No. of Orders issued for Sanitary Amendment of Houses or Premises (not Housing) ...	30
	{ No. of Houses disinfected, or to which disinfectants were supplied ...	65
	{ No. of Infectious cases visited ...	39
	{ Tuberculosis—Disinfections, 16 ... Visited ...	12
	{ No. of Visits to infectious cases notified and not notified	230
Sewers	{ No. of New Sewers laid down by Builder ...	Nil
	{ No. of Sewers cleansed or repaired ...	3
House Drains	{ No. repaired or cleansed ...	16
	{ No. relaid (piped) ...	9
	{ No. trapped or ventilated ...	14
	{ No. of New Pipe Drains laid ...	12
	{ No. of other New Drains laid ...	Nil
Privies, Cesspools, and W.C's	{ No. of Privies cleansed and reconstructed ...	4
	{ No. of Cesspools cleansed or reconstructed ...	4
	{ No. of Cesspools closed ...	1
	{ No. of New Cesspools ... (Septic Tanks)	2
	{ No. of New W.C's ...	4
	{ No. of W.C's, New Pans and Repairs ...	16
	{ No. of Dry Privies constructed ... (E.C.'s)	4
Water Supply	{ No. of Dry Privies converted from Cesspit Closets ...	2
	{ No. of Samples of Water taken for analysis ...	22
	{ No. of Wells closed ...	2
	{ No. of <i>Old</i> Houses supplied with Company's Water ...	1
	{ No. of New Wells ...	2
	{ No. of New Cisterns (soft water) ...	Nil
New Houses	{ No. of Wells or Cisterns cleansed or repaired ...	4
	{ No. of New Houses certified as fit for habitation (Saltford) ...	1
	{ No. of such Houses supplied with Company's Water ...	Nil
No. of such Houses supplied with Wells or Cisterns ...		1
No. of Dairies, &c., inspected ...		101
No. of Bakehouses inspected ...		8
No. of Slaughter-houses inspected ...		11
No. of Factories inspected ...		2
No. of Workshops inspected ...		1
Overcrowding (cases of) reported ...		4
,, ,, abated ...		2
No. of Legal Proceedings ...		Nil

(Signed) GEORGE WATTS, A.S.I.

Surveyor's Annual Report for 1920.

OLD BANK CHAMBERS,

36, CORN STREET, BRISTOL.

March, 1921.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Keynsham
Rural District Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

Buildings.— During the year 1920, the development of your district shows an improvement on that of the previous year, especially in the building trades.

The number of plans submitted to you during the year, apart from your Council's Housing Scheme, is 40, and of these 38 have received your approval.

These plans include for the following :—

- 13 New houses, of which 10 are in respect of "The Ministry of Health Grant to private persons," for which Certificate "A" has been issued in each case.
- 2 for business premises.
- 7 for structural alterations and additions to existing buildings.
- 12 for temporary buildings.

In the above, 4 of the applicants have withdrawn their plans.

10 buildings, including alterations, have been completed during the year.

Sewers.—183 yards of new sewers have been constructed at the public expense, in connection with the Keynsham Parish Site, *i.e.* from the Housing Site to Bath Street.

The Keynsham and Brislington sewers have given satisfaction throughout the year.

Housing Scheme for the District.—Your Council's Scheme provides for the erection of 136 houses in 10 out of the 14 parishes, and during the year the following works have been undertaken :—

Keynsham Parish Site.—A tender was approved by the Ministry for the Construction of Roads and Sewers, and a contract was entered into with Messrs. Jefferies & Son for the work, which is now nearing completion.

Your Council have considered tenders from several Contractors for the erection of houses on this site, which were submitted to the Ministry, but in every case they were considered to be high and beyond the limit the Ministry of Health would agree to for the particular types of houses.

At the close of the year a satisfactory tender was received from Mr. King, builder, for the erection of 12 houses (parlour, living-room, and three bedroom type), which was recommended for approval by the Housing Commissioner, and the matter has been submitted to the Ministry of Health for their approval.

In respect to the remaining houses for this site, the Commissioner advised that further tenders be asked for, with the hope that more favourable prices will be obtained, owing to falling prices in the building trade. Tenders have been advertised for, and when obtained will be submitted to your Council for approval.

Whitchurch Parish Site.—A contract was entered into with Mr. W. J. Mills for the construction of sewers and septic tank in connection with the Housing Scheme at this site. The contract is nearing completion.

Mr. Mills signed a contract for 8 houses (non-parlour and three bedroom type), the works are progressing favourably, but owing to shortage of material and other difficulties, the houses are not likely to be completed before July, 1921.

Saltford Parish Site.—A tender was accepted of Mr. G. Sanders, builder, after consideration by your Council, for extension of the housing sewer to the main road, taking in other drainage; and a contract was signed in October for this work, which is now being carried out. This sewer will be at the public expense, as the Ministry will not allow the cost to be chargeable to the Housing Scheme.

A contract was entered into with Mr. Sanders for the erection of 8 houses (non-parlour and three bedroom type), which are progressing favourably and are expected to be ready for occupation by November, 1921.

Queen Charlton Parish Site.—Estimates for the erection of 2 houses are under consideration of the Ministry of Health.

Corston Parish Site.—Tenders were considered by your Council for the construction of sewers and septic tank, but the cost being excessive for provision for only 4 houses, they were disapproved.

The Ministry recommended an alternative scheme, which is under consideration.

Tenders are being obtained for the erection of 4 houses, and it is hoped they will come within the limit allowed by the Ministry of Health.

Northstoke Site.—This site has been under consideration of the Ministry for some time, but they have finally approved of it, together with the lay-out plan and type of houses to be erected, and tenders will be forthcoming for the 2 houses proposed.

Compton Dando, Kelston, and Priston Parish Sites.—Lay-out plans have been prepared and submitted both to your Council and the Housing Commissioner, but owing to difficulties of water supply, drainage and other matters, they are still under consideration of the Ministry of Health.

Brislington Housing Scheme.—Your Council have had many difficulties to contend with in the selection of a suitable site: various sites have been inspected, valued, and lay-out plans prepared and submitted both to you and the Housing Commissioner, and the question of the most suitable site, having regard to all the essentials, is still under the consideration of the Ministry of Health.

Your obedient servant,

JOHN BEVAN.

TABLE I.

Causes of Death in Keynsham Rural District, 1920.

CAUSES OF DEATH					Males.	Females.
ALL CAUSES					68	52
1	Enteric fever				1	...
2	Small-pox ... ..				...	...
3	Measles				1	...
4	Scarlet fever ... ..				...	...
5	Whooping cough				1	...
6	Diphtheria and croup				2	...
7	Influenza				2	...
8	Erysipelas ... ..				...	...
9	Pulmonary tuberculosis				4	...
10	Tuberculous meningitis ... ..				...	...
11	Other tuberculous diseases ... ..				...	1
12	Cancer, malignant disease				10	12
13	Rheumatic fever				2	...
14	Meningitis ... ..				...	...
15	Organic heart disease				6	9
16	Bronchitis				5	9
17	Pneumonia (all forms)				4	1
18	Other respiratory diseases				1	1
19	Diarrhœa, &c. (under 2 years)				1	...
20	Appendicitis and typhlitis ... ..				...	...
21	Cirrhosis of liver ... ..				...	...
21A	Alcoholism ... ..				...	...
22	Nephritis and Bright's disease				2	2
23	Puerperal fever ... ..				...	...
24	Parturition, apart from puerperal fever ... ..				...	...
25	Congenital debility, &c.				2	...
26	Violence, apart from suicide				1	1
27	Suicide ... ..				...	...
28	Other defined diseases				23	16
29	Causes ill-defined or unknown ... ..				...	...
Special Causes (included above)—						
	Cerebro-spinal fever ... ..				...	...
	Poliomyelitis ... ..				...	...
	Encephalitis Lethargica				1	...
TOTAL DEATHS of infants under 1 year of age					6	2
	Illegitimate ... ..				...	...
TOTAL BIRTHS					100	110
	Legitimate				98	106
	Illegitimate				2	4
POPULATION ... ..					... 9,365	

TABLE II.

NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED IN 1920.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE	At all Ages	Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 up.	Remov'd to Hospital
Small-pox ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	14	...	1	9	2	2	...	...	7
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	26	...	3	21	1	1	...	...	20
Enteric and Paratyphoid ...	2	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...
Pneumonia	6	...	...	...	...	3	3	...	...
Cholera ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plague ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Policmyelitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Polio Encephalitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	Bristol Gen. Hosp.
Typhus Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Relapsing Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Trench Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	5	...	...	...	...	2	3	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	20	...	1	6	5	5	3	...	...
Other Tuberculosis	2	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...
Malaria { This Country ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{ Other	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
Chickenpox ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles (excluding German)	2	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	80	0	5	40	9	15	11	—	28

